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UN-HABITAT Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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Agenda item 5
Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including coordination matters

Draft resolution submitted by Iraq

Support by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and the role of national Habitat committees in its preparation and implementation

The Governing Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976,[1] and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), held in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1996,[2]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 69/226 of 19 December 2014, which addressed the convening in 2016 of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), and other relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 67/216 of 21 December 2012 and Governing Council resolution 24/14 of 19 April 2013, as well as decisions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Governing Council on the implementation of the outcome of Habitat II, on the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[3]

Recalling further all relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly on the role of national Habitat committees and support by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for Programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda in their respective development frameworks, in particular General Assembly resolution 65/165 of 20 December 2010,

Welcoming with appreciation the work of national Habitat committees, which provide a forum for all levels of government, civil society and the private sector to engage in debate on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, drawing on the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and Habitat II, which recognized the potential of the committees in identifying challenges and reporting on achievements in addressing issues pertaining to human settlements,

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[1] See *Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May–11 June 1976* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum).

[2] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

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Recalling Governing Council resolution 24/10 of 19 April 2013 and General Assembly resolution 69/226, bearing in mind the strong link between sustainable urbanization and human settlements and sustainable development, and the need for effective coordination between the preparatory process for Habitat III and the preparations for the United Nations summit to be held in September 2015 for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, in order to promote coherence and to minimize duplication of effort,

Welcoming the decision on preparations for Habitat III adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development at its second session,

1. *Encourages* member States to take into account, in preparing for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and the implementation of its outcome to be presented as the "New Urban Agenda", and in the formulation of policies, plans and programmes at the local, national, regional and international levels, the role of sustainable urbanization as a driver of sustainable development, rural-urban linkages and the interlinkages between the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in promoting stable, prosperous and inclusive societies;

2. *Also encourages* member States to establish and support broad-based national Habitat committees, as appropriate and within national governmental and institutional frameworks, to facilitate the coordination of Habitat Agenda partners and major groups and other stakeholders in the areas of sustainable urbanization and human settlements in the national context, to follow up on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and to fulfil other roles as may be recommended by Habitat III;

3. *Urges* member States to expedite and finalize their national reports for Habitat III, requesting, if necessary, and in line with the work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the support of the Programme and other member States, and encourages the participation of all levels of government and other stakeholders, including, as appropriate, through national Habitat committees;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide technical assistance, upon request, within the framework of the existing mandate and available resources, including tools and guidelines, of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, to support the development of adequate capacity of national Habitat committees to deliver on their responsibilities;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Director to offer, within the framework of existing mandates and available resources, the expertise of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in the elaboration of the Habitat III global report and the technical inputs to the New Urban Agenda, such as issue papers and policy units, as well as the preparatory process as a whole;

6. *Further requests* the Executive Director to promote the wide, effective and improved participation of and contributions by major groups and other stakeholders at all stages of the Habitat III process and in the implementation of its outcome document through the use of, among others, national urban forums, national urban campaigns, regional urban forums, regional consultation mechanisms and the World Urban Campaign and its initiatives;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council at its twenty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the outcomes of Habitat III.